

### **REMARKS**

This paper responds to the Office Action mailed on June 27, 2005.

Claims 17, 26, 34, 41, 52 and 53 are amended. Claims 22, 23, 25, 35, 36, 40, and 50 are canceled without disclaimer or prejudice. Claims 54-57 are added. As a result, claims 17-19, 26, 27, 29, 31, 32, 34, 37, 39, 41-48, and 52-57 are now pending in this application.

#### **§112 Rejection of the Claims**

Claims 17-19, 22, 23, 25-27, 29, 34, 35, 36, 39-47, 50, 52 and 53 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant respectfully traverses. Applicant submits that claims 17-19, 22, 23, 25-27, 29, 34, 35, 36, 39-47, 50, 52 and 53, as amended only for clarity, particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

#### **§103 Rejection of the Claims**

Claims 17-19, 22, 23, 25, 34, 39, 41-46, 52 and 53 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Itoh (U.S. 4,920,389) in view of Kanetaki et al. (U.S. 4,906,590).

Applicant respectfully traverses.

Independent claims 17, 34, 41, 52 and 53 are amended to recite the things at least similar to the things recited in the allowed independent claim 31. Thus, Applicant believes that claims 17, 34, 41, 52 and 53 are patentable over Itoh and Kanetaki et al. Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection, and allowance of claims 17, 34, 41, 52 and 53 and their dependent claims.

Claims 26, 27, 29, 35, 36, 40, 47 and 50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Itoh in view of Kanetaki et al. applied to claims 17-19, 22, 23, 25, 31, 32, 34, 37, 39, 41-46, 48, 52 and 53 above, and in further view of Wahlstrom (U.S. 5,396,452).

Applicant respectfully traverses.

Independent claim 26 is amended to recite the things at least similar to the things recited in the allowed independent claim 31. Thus, Applicant believes that claim 26 is patentable over Itoh, Kanetaki et al., and Wahlstrom. Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection, and allowance of claim 26 and its dependent claims.

*Allowable Subject Matter*

Applicant acknowledges allowance of claims 31, 32, 37 and 48.

*New Claims*

Applicant submits that new dependent claims 54-57 introduce no new matter. Claims 54-57 recite the things at least similar to the things recited in the allowed dependent claims 32 and 37. Accordingly, Applicant requests consideration and allowance of claims 54-57.

**CONCLUSION**

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 373-6969 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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By their Representatives,

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Date October 27 2005

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**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:** The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 27 day of October, 2005.

Name

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Signature

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